

standards for qualifying for the new entrant bidding credit.

*V. Steps Taken to Minimize Significant Economic Impact on Small Entities, and Significant Alternatives Considered*

The FRFA and First Supplemental FRFA described in considerable detail the steps taken in the *First Report and Order* and in the previous *Memorandum Opinion and Order* to minimize significant economic impact on small entities and the alternatives considered. The rule amendment adopted in this *Memorandum Opinion and Order* further refines the eligibility standards for the new entrant bidding credit. The Commission believes that attributing the mass media interests (if any) held by very substantial investors in bidders claiming new entrant status will help properly limit the scope of the bidding credit to those truly new entities intended to benefit from the credit (and who are likely to be small businesses). In addition, adoption of this attribution policy should reduce the likelihood of bidder manipulation of the eligibility standards for the bidding credit.

The Commission also believes that setting this attribution benchmark at 33% reasonably balances its interest in capturing investor relationships that provide a realistic potential to influence the core operating functions of broadcast auction applicants, and the needs of prospective auction applicants (including small businesses) to obtain financing. This 33% equity/debt attribution standard does not preclude an individual or entity (including any existing broadcaster) from investing any amount in a prospective broadcast auction applicant. Nor does this 33% equity/debt standard require an applicant claiming new entrant status to contribute a minimum amount of equity, or otherwise affect an applicant's right to participate in a broadcast auction. Because this standard only establishes that the attributable media interests (if any) of an investor who holds more than a 33% equity and/or debt interest in a broadcast auction bidder will be attributable to that bidder for determining its status as a new entrant, the Commission concludes that adoption of the 33% equity/debt standard should not unduly hinder the ability of broadcast licensees generally, or broadcast auction applicants specifically, to obtain capital.

*VI. Report to Congress*

The Commission will send a copy of this *Memorandum Opinion and Order*, including this Second Supplemental FRFA, in a report to be sent to Congress pursuant to the Small Business

Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. See 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A). In addition, the Commission will send a copy of the *Memorandum Opinion and Order*, including the Second Supplemental FRFA, to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration. A copy of the *Memorandum Opinion and Order* and Second Supplemental FRFA (or summaries thereof) will also be published in the **Federal Register**. See 5 U.S.C. 604(b).

Authority for issuance of this *Memorandum Opinion and Order* is contained in Sections 4 (i) and (j), 301, 303(f), 303(g), 303(h), 303(j), 303(r), 307(c), 308(b), 309(j), 309(l) and 403 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154(i), 154(j), 301, 303(f), 303(g), 303(h), 303(j), 303(r), 307(c), 308(b), 309(j), 309(l) and 403.

**List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73**

Radio broadcasting, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Television broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Magalie Roman Salas**,  
Secretary.

**Rule Change**

Part 73 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

**PART 73—RADIO BROADCAST SERVICES**

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334, and 336.

2. Section 73.5008 is amended by revising paragraph (c) to read as follows:

**§ 73.5008 Definitions applicable for designated entity provisions.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) An *attributable interest* in a winning bidder or in a medium of mass communications shall be determined in accordance with § 73.3555 and Note 2. In addition, the attributable mass media interests, if any, held by an individual or entity with an equity and/or debt interest(s) in a winning bidder shall be attributed to that winning bidder for purposes of determining its eligibility for the new entrant bidding credit, if the equity (including all stockholdings, whether voting or nonvoting, common or preferred) and debt interest or interests, in the aggregate, exceed thirty-three (33) percent of the total asset value

(defined as the aggregate of all equity plus all debt) of the winning bidder.

[FR Doc. 99-21471 Filed 8-17-99; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**50 CFR Part 679**

[Docket No. 990304062-9062-01; I.D. 081399A]

**Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Northern Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for northern rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 1999 total allowable catch (TAC) of northern rockfish in this area.

**DATES:** Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), August 13, 1999, through 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas Pearson, 907-481-1780 or tom.pearson@noaa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 1999 TAC of northern rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska was established by the Final 1999 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish for the GOA (64 FR 12094, March 11, 1999) as 840 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 679.20(c)(3)(ii).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 1999 TAC for northern rockfish has been reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 740 mt, and is setting aside

the remaining 100 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance has been reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for northern rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts may be found in the regulations at § 679.20(e) and (f).

#### Classification

This action responds to the best available information recently obtained from the fishery. It must be implemented immediately to prevent overharvesting the 1999 TAC of northern rockfish for the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA. A delay in the effective date is impracticable and contrary to the public interest. Further delay would only result in overharvest. NMFS finds for good cause that the implementation of this action should not be delayed for 30 days. Accordingly, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d), a delay in the effective date is hereby waived.

This action is required by 50 CFR 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 13, 1999.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. 99-21434 Filed 8-13-99; 3:14 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 990304062-9062-01; I.D. 081299A]

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Modification of a closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is opening directed fishing for Pacific ocean perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska management area (GOA). This action is necessary to fully utilize the 1999 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific ocean perch in this area.

**DATES:** Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), August 15, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Furuness, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 1999 TAC of Pacific ocean perch in the West Yakutat District of the GOA was established by the Final 1999 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish for the GOA (64 FR 12094, March 11, 1999)

as 820 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 679.20(c)(3)(ii).

The Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, has established a directed fishing allowance of 670 mt, and set aside the remaining 150 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. The fishery for Pacific ocean perch in the West Yakutat District of the GOA was closed to directed fishing under § 679.20(d)(1)(iii) on July 19, 1999, (64 FR 39090, July 21, 1999).

NMFS has determined that as of July 31, 1999, 217 mt remain in the directed fishing allowance. Therefore, NMFS is terminating the previous closure and is opening directed fishing for Pacific ocean perch in the West Yakutat District of the GOA.

#### Classification

All other closures remain in full force and effect. This action responds to the best available information recently obtained from the fishery. It must be implemented immediately in order to allow full utilization of the Pacific ocean perch TAC. Providing prior notice and opportunity for public comment for this action is impracticable and contrary to the public interest. NMFS finds for good cause that the implementation of this action cannot be delayed for 30 days. Accordingly, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d), a delay in the effective date is hereby waived.

This action is required by § 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 13, 1999

**Richard W. Surdi,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. 99-21433 Filed 8-13-99; 3:14 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F